



With the flash of the sun
The new year has begun;
Without effort
It's come to the birth;

But in such a few days
It will glide down the ways
And forever
Be lost, with its worth.

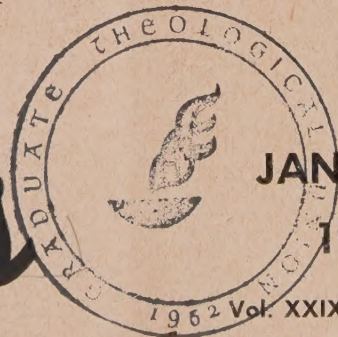
It has burst on our sight
Just as spotless and bright
As a blanket
Of untrampled snow;

But the thing that remains,
Whether beauty or stains,
Will depend on
The way that we go;

For the stream of this life,
With its struggle and strife,
Is a pathway
That's ruthlessly trod;

But we'll climb to its height,
And retain its delight,
If we're led by
The Spirit of God.

Glad Tidings



JANUARY
1954

1962 Vol. XXIX

No. 1

WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

Oscar C. Arnesen

An enlightening discussion of a perplexing problem.

Not too long ago the writer of a book that became a best seller, sought to ridicule Christianity by sarcastically raising the question, "What is a Christian?" Such an attack stirred my soul. It concerns me that in this supposed Christian land, Christianity had become such a weak, diluted thing that any man could look about him and contemptuously ask, "What is a Christian?"

In looking to the Word of God for an answer, I was surprised to discover that the term "Christian" was used only three times in the New Testament. I decided I could best find the answer in these three scriptures and respective contexts. I shall call your attention first, to the twenty-sixth chapter of Acts where Paul was called by Festus to appear before King Agrippa to answer the charges brought against him by the Jews. After an excellent defense of his right to preach the gospel as he had experienced it, Paul told Agrippa that he knew that the king believed the prophets. It was then that Agrippa said, *"Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."*

It makes very little difference whether the king was almost persuaded to be a Christian or whether, as the Revised Version suggests, he was endeavoring to be a bit sarcastic in saying, "With but little persuasion thou wouldest fain make me a Christian." The important thing

for us to understand is, first, that Agrippa knew what it meant to be a Christian, and second, Agrippa lacked the courage to be a Christian.

Paul shows that he has no doubt regarding Agrippa's knowledge about Christianity by three remarks. First, Paul declared that Agrippa was expert in the questions and customs concerning the Jews. Second, Paul reminded Agrippa that this thing was not done in a corner. Third, the already mentioned fact, that Paul told Agrippa that he knew that the king believed the prophets. Furthermore, it was Agrippa who used the term "Christian" in a way calculated to avoid the challenge that Paul was making.

Paul was not willing to miss an opportunity to win a soul. He still tried to press upon his hearer his insistence that even a king must become a Christian. Surely any man possesses something real when, though he is a prisoner and the king is his judge, he will express the wish, that except for the bonds that bind, it would be his desire that the king would be just like him! Paul was a living example of what he meant. Paul was a well known figure in the Roman world and becoming better known all the time. This was not the first time that Paul was a prisoner without a proper charge having been presented against him. Because the king knew the self-sacrificing life of Paul, the challenge that he should become the same kind of a Christian as Paul, was not missed by King Agrippa.

It takes courage to face the issues of life, the calls to righteousness, the calls to be noble, the calls to be generous, the calls to be kind, the calls to give oneself and one's spirit and substance. It was perhaps this thing that the proud and selfish king was not willing to face.

Paul laid down the gauntlet. The king did not have the courage to pick it up. It does take courage to be a Christian. But it is not the kind of courage that comes from confidence in one's own ability. Rather it is the courage born of need and the recognition that Christ is able to meet that need. This kind of courage carries with it a sense of humility Agrippa would not accept. So, without a word to Paul in answer to his impassioned plea, the king stood up defeated.

Being a Christian involves courage.

Moreover, it provides both strength and courage as Paul clearly demonstrates in this twenty-sixth chapter of Acts.

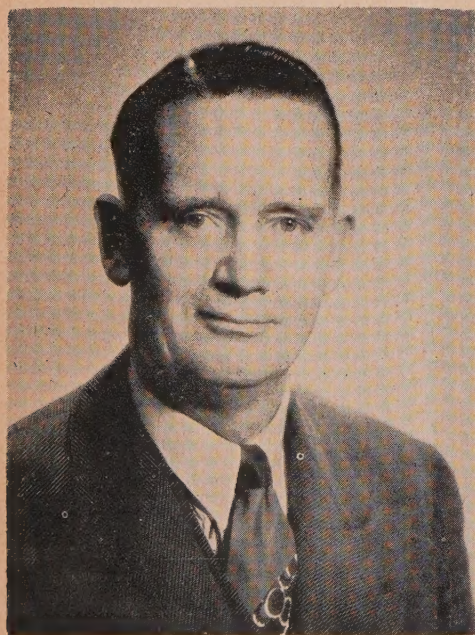
Suffering seems, somehow, to be the lot of everyone of us. There is the suffering of the evil doer—a suffering that most of us feel to be justified. But Peter says in the fourth chapter of his First Epistle and in the sixteenth verse, that suffering as a Christian is not something of which we ought to be ashamed, but rather something for which to glorify God. Peter further supports this position by saying, in the second chapter of this same epistle, that Christ has set us an example of suffering that we should follow His steps. Paul clinches the matter by saying, in Second Timothy the third chapter and the twelfth verse, *"Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."* That should settle the matter for every Christian.

It would seem improper, in the light of God's Word, to say that by becoming a Christian a man puts an end to all his troubles. However, being a Christian does provide the answer to every problem; together with the strength, courage, and joyfulness with which the problem may be overcome. The Psalmist joyfully proclaims that *"Many are the troubles of the righteous but the Lord delivereth him out of them all."*

Not to be forgotten is the nagging suffering of being misunderstood. Who is there among us who has never been misunderstood? And who will honestly say that there have not been times when he was at least partially to blame for being misunderstood? The last was never true of Jesus. In spite of this, He knew the suffering of being misunderstood. There were times when His detractors did all they could to see that He was misunderstood. Jesus knew all about this. We will not be immune to it either. Peter says, *What glory is it, if when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God."*

There is a difference in having no troubles at all and being delivered out of them all. That difference is the basis of development, courage, and progress.

The well-known novelist and naturalist, Gene Stratton Porter, writes that she once possessed the cocoon containing a very rare and extremely beautiful butterfly. It was time for the butterfly to emerge from the cocoon. The normal process for this butterfly was slow and torturous. The opening through which the butterfly must emerge in this species was unusually small. In her sympathy with the process, and hoping to relieve and hasten the process somewhat, she slit the opening with an instrument to make it larger. The sobering result



PASTOR O. C. ARNESEN. Brother Arnesen is pastor of our assembly in Lincoln.

was that the butterfly, normally a sleek streamlined beauty with a normal life-span as butterflies go, came out ugly, fat, and bulbous, and died shortly after emerging from the cocoon.

Some of us have at times been over solicitous when we saw young Christians going through soul-trying difficulties. We have disastrously meddled with God's way of making Christians strong. Suffering, in the will of God, brings out the best in many Christians. Even Jesus, the captain of our salvation, was made perfect through suffering.

Frankly, suffering is definitely a part of being a Christian and must be considered in answering the question, "What is a Christian?" Being a Christian in the full sense of the word means suffering, yes, even a glorious way of suffering.

It should be noticed, at this point, that I am carefully avoiding the use of any adjectives in connection with the word "Christian." So often the word is qualified by such adjectives as: real, genuine, honest, careful, noble, consistent, and faithful. I believe that the single word, "Christian," actually includes, in itself, all of these qualities and our use of these adjectives weakens the term in our understanding. Being a Christian will cause a man to be real, genuine, honest, careful, noble, consistent, and faithful or it is not Christianity.

The insistence that a man is a Christian because he is an American is a farce. Even the fact that a majority of the people that constitute a nation are Christians does not give the right to everyone in that nation to claim to be a Christian if they are without the other necessary qualifications. By the same token, it must be painful for a Christian, living in a heathen nation, to know that he is considered by some to be a heathen simply because a majority of the people living in his nation are given over to idolatry.

In the last sentence in the twenty-fifth verse of the eleventh chapter of Acts, those who are called Christians are strictly limited to those who qualify as disciples. Disciples are followers or learners. One who feels that he knows more than his teacher can scarcely be called a learner. Part of the process of learning includes the discovery of how little one knows and how much he has yet to learn. The next process in learning includes discovering who knows what the learner needs to know. Then the teacher can help the learner.

One cannot deliberately choose his own way and be properly said to be a follower. A lump usually rises in the throat of a man, who has broken his way through new snow, when his little son tries to place his little feet where his daddy's big feet have been. He knows then that his little son is trying to follow him. In a similar sense the Christian

will follow in the steps of his Saviour.

Christianity by association is no more logical than the present political football, of guilt by association, in its connection with Communism. The disciple idea is to learn by doing and not by merely watching the thing being done by others. You do not join a Christian group in order to become a Christian. You join a Christian group because you are a Christian. Your recognition, that you are a Christian, makes it logical for you to join a Christian group.

At one time I used, as a garage for my car, a building that had formerly that my car was a horse and buggy. Nevertheless, I did not go back to the horse and buggy days. I did not claim that my car was a horse and buggy. Conversely, housing a horse and buggy in a garage would not permit the owner to claim that his horse and buggy was an automobile!

In becoming a Christian we do associate with Christ and His followers, but there is more to it than that. We must become a partaker of His nature. We must see things the way He sees them. We must be a devotee of the things for which He stands. We must accept His judgements. We must accept Him for what He is. And it was Jesus Himself who said, "*Ye must be born again.*"

Jesus was not given to making rash statements. He did not waste His most forceful expressions in small matters. He knew values and carefully put first things first, in the order of their importance. A student of English grammar will recognize the fact that the term, "must," is the strongest command form in the English language. Students of rhetoric will understand that the excessive use of adverbs in this connection only serves to weaken the moral force of the command.

This is the only time Jesus used the term and because of this it makes the command, "*Ye must be born again,*" the most important command with which His followers must comply. It is in fact, an utter impossibility, in the proper sense of the word, to be a follower of Christ, a disciple or a Christian, without having complied with all that is involved in being born again.

To sum up, a Christian is one, who is born again and who is continuing to follow his Lord wherever He may lead him. He in one, who is ready to accept the challenge of being Christ-like under any and all circumstances, and with the help and grace provided by his Lord, willing to suffer in any way that will bring glory to Christ and make the cross of Christ more attractive to others.

Life's greatest tragedy is to lose God and never miss him.



YOUR FRUIT TREE

What kind of a tree did you plant

In the year that has just rolled around?
What kind was the soil you planted it in
Was it fertile or rough stony ground?

Did you water it well with your teardrops
That were shed for the souls of lost men?
Or permit its withering almost to death
Ere remembering it once again?

Did you plant it outside in the open
So that sunlight of love shed its glow?
Or back in some dusty dark corner forgotten
Where it neither was seen nor could grow?

Did you let it be tossed by harsh winds
That would warp it and twist it in spite?
Did you cut off diseased roots of envy and pride
Thus clearing the way for sound life?

Have you carefully pruned off each branch
That never would bear any fruit,
The twigs grown of temper and angry cruel words
Of contention and strife's vain dispute?

Have you sprayed it with meekness all well
To keep out haughty pride that would bere
Right into the trunk and the branches be-
getting
Conceit as a festering sore?

What kind of ripe fruit did you harvest?
Was it luscious, abundant, and sweet?
Or was it not good to the core inside
Was it shrivelled or then not complete?

At the close of the year of our labours
Let us seek the best fruit to display
So that God looks with favour on that
which He sees
And we have no regrets nor dismay.

—Betty Ann Cole.

Home MISSIONS Foreign

"The Field is the World"

A Report on the Response To Date to

CHURCH EXTENSION FELLOWSHIP

	No. Members	Contribution
Alturas Assembly of God	10	\$ 20.00
Anderson Assembly of God	7	14.00
Atwater Assembly of God	12	27.00
Benicia Assembly of God	2	7.00
Bethany Park Church, Santa Cruz	22	75.00
Covelo Assembly of God	14	28.00
East Oakland	16	32.00
Escalon Assembly of God	12	24.00
El Cerrito Assembly of God	16	36.00
Friant Assembly of God	2	4.00
Gridley Assembly of God	20	42.00
Leggett Assembly of God	13	26.00
Morgan Hill Full Gospel Church	24	48.00
Oakland Bethany Chapel	15	30.00
Pacific Grove First Assembly of God	44	95.00
Pittsburg Bella Vista Assembly	1	2.00
Rio Dell Assembly of God	8	16.00
Salinas Calvary Church	10	20.00
San Francisco Glad Tidings Temple	25	58.00
Santa Cruz First Assembly of God	19	38.00
Soledad Calvary Tabernacle	11	22.00
Sunset Assembly of God	2	4.00
Vacaville Assembly of God	8	16.00
Miscellaneous (Missionaries, Evangelists, etc.)	45	102.00
TOTALS	358	\$786.00

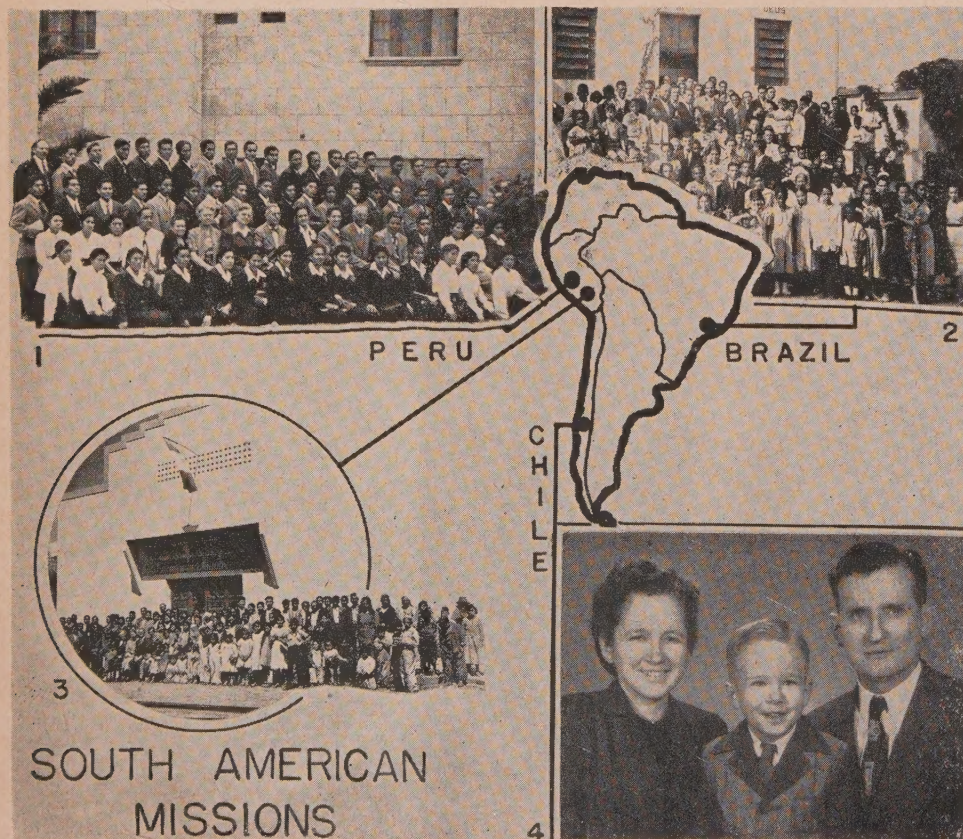
HELP! HELP!

The response from our constituency to last month's article in this column regarding the Church Extension Fellowship and our immediate, urgent need has been both interesting and encouraging. Words of appreciation for the long overdue progressive program of expansion have been many and varied. Several cards and letters of commendation have been received, with thanks, in the District office. In fact, we've received everything in the way of encouragement we could wish for . . . everything, that is, EXCEPT CASH! And money is what we need so desperately!

Good intentions, fond wishes, and encouraging words are unfortunately not the material from which churches are built! (Please read the poem on the District Council page.) Cold, hard cash given from liberal, warm hearts and transformed into wood, mortar, steel, and glass provide the substance for erecting a house of God. For that reason it becomes necessary to plead urgently for your immediate and united cooperation!

Here are the facts: As we outlined to you last month, we have entered into negotiations for our first piece of Church Extension Fellowship property—in the fabulous Arden area of Sacramento. We do not have enough money on hand to close the deal. We still need nearly \$5000 to clear the property, to say nothing of beginning to erect our building. The plain truth is that we have only had a token response to date from our churches in support of this program of church extension. Out of nearly three hundred churches in our great district, only 24 have submitted signed cards together with the necessary money to participate in this united endeavor. Above is our *complete* list to date of churches, cards, and contributions. If you or your church are not included in this report, please heed our plea for help and do something about it at once! This is a job for everyone. If you fail—the entire program fails. We must have your support!

—Kenneth M. Haystead



FOUR SOUTH AMERICAN mission fields are represented in pictures recently received. The map indicates the fields pictured in the photographs. The scenes include: (1) The 1953-54 faculty and student body of the Assembly of God Bible School in Lima, Peru, (2) A Bible Conference at Varginha, Brazil, (3) A group at the dedication of a new church in Cuzco, Peru, (4) Brother and Sister Lowell Dowdy and their son Jonathan, missionaries in Valdivia, Chile.

The District Council

W. T. GASTON
Superintendent

J. L. GERHART, Secretary-Treasurer
P. O. Box 961, Santa Cruz, Phone 7520
Office: Bethany Park, near Santa Cruz

K. M. HAYSTEAD
Asst. Superintendent

District Council Committeemen

The following names are those who have been appointed to serve on committees for the coming District Council which shall convene in Sacramento on February 23 through the 26th. All ministers and delegates are urged to attend this Thirty-sixth annual conclave. With Rev. Ernest S. Williams, beloved former General Superintendent, as speaker, and many other interesting and unique features, this coming District Council promises to be outstanding in spiritual tone and overall contribution to the fellowship. Plan now to attend!

Roster Committee

Rayford C. Aderholt, Chairman
George E. Elrod
Rueben A. Wilson, Jr.

Parliamentarian

Leonard Palmer

Resolutions Committee

Oscar C. Arnesen, Chairman
Earl F. Davis
John F. Green
T. Kermit Jeffrey
Richard Orchard
William Savidge
Donald G. Weston
R. A. Work

Program Committee

James R. Swanson, Chairman
Donald E. Annas
Joseph B. Prettyman
William O. Vickery

Note: All Standing Committees are listed on Page 4 of 1953 District Council Year Book.

Subscribers to *Revivaltime* magazine will have noted that the Northern California and Nevada District topped the list in offerings for the month of September. In that time our people gave \$1,474.40. With the new coast-to-coast "live" broadcast the needs of this worthy project have increased sharply, but undoubtedly God's people will gladly continue to share the load.

† † †

Several of our District churches have responded to the need of the boys of Southwestern Bible Institute who lost all their personal belongings in the dormitory fire there. Cash offerings have been sent, as well as donations of clothing and bedding. Others who wish to assist may address their gifts to: Southwestern Bible Institute, 1200 Sycamore Street, Waxahachie, Texas.

† † †

In a recent report in the *Pentecostal Evangel* Glad Tidings Bible Institute ranked third in comparison with eleven other Assemblies of God Bible Schools and Colleges in spiritual achievements as a result of Christian service ministry.

On December 1, of this past year, Brother R. M. Riggs officially assumed his duties as General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God.

† † †

Just as you may not draw a check at the bank until you have made a deposit; so with life, you cannot take out more than you put in.

Fellowship Meetings

JANUARY

- 1 — Reno, Red Bluff
- 4 — Modesto
- 11 — Antioch, Contra Costa, Rockport
- 18 — Montague, Napa
- 25 — Escalon, Fairmead, Gridley, Los Banos

FEBRUARY

- 1 — Yerington
- 8 — Walnut Creek, Boonville
- 15 — Biola



GOD BUILDS NO CHURCHES

God builds no churches. By his plan
That labor has been left to man.
No spires miraculously arise;
No little mission from the skies
Falls on the bleak and barren place
To be a source of strength and grace,
The humblest church demands its price
In human toil and sacrifice.

Men call the Church the House of God,
Toward which the toil-stained pilgrims
trod

In search of strength and rest and hope,
As blindly through life's mists they grope.
And there God dwells; but it is man
Who builds that house and draws its plan,
Pays for mortar and the stone;
That none need seek for God alone.

The humblest spire in mortal ken
Where God abides was built by men.
And if the church is still to grow,
Is still the light of hope to throw
Across the valley of despair,
Men still must build God's house of prayer.
God sends no churches from the skies,
Out of our hearts must they arise.

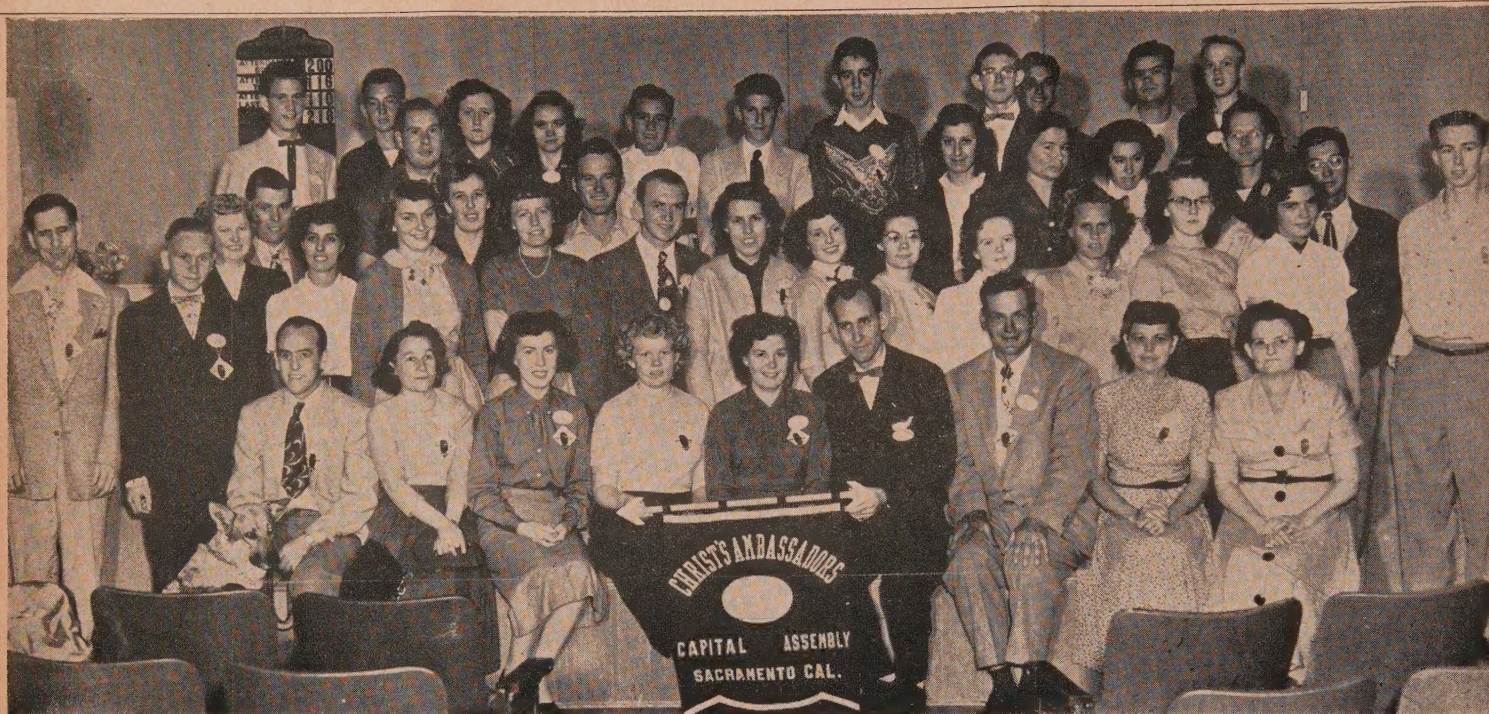
—Edgar Guest.

The silhouette drawing of the church and the Christmas silhouette in the December issue are the work of Everett Wilson, a Junior student at Glad Tidings Bible Institute.

DISTRICT COUNCIL

February 23, 24, 25, 26
Sacramento Bethel Temple

DISTRICT PRESBYTERY WILL MEET FEBRUARY 21 and 22



Pictured above are the C. A.'s of the Capital Assembly of Sacramento. The officers from right to left on the front row are: Dorothy Gomes, Counselor; Lillian Price, Vice President; Ira Van Houten, President; Pastor and Mrs. Walter Boring; Sadie Curry, Treasurer; and Clara Galloway, Secretary.

Under the splendid leadership of Ira Van Houten and the good counselling of Sister Gomes, this group has enjoyed an unusual growth. Less than two years ago when the group was organized, there were only seventeen members; now the group numbers in the forties.

Everyone pictured in the group, down to the last member, is active in C. A. work. Every Sunday afternoon the C. A.'s take their instruments and either call on the sick, visit the County Hospital ward for the aged, or minister in a convalescent home. Once a month they journey to the mountains to conduct a service in a camp of the California Youth Authority.

The C. A.'s of this group are active in all C. A. District functions and they support the National Office as well. Their per capita giving has merited them mention in the C. A. Herald. Our District is proud of groups of this caliber and we both salute them cordially and express thanks to God for them. Though this group does have an advantage in having one of our District C. A. officers as their pastor, we nonetheless feel that any spiritually alert body can succeed equally, and we humbly pray for "more of the same."

February Is Speed-the-Light Month. Our District Must Do Its Part. Brother Floyd Thomas Says . . .

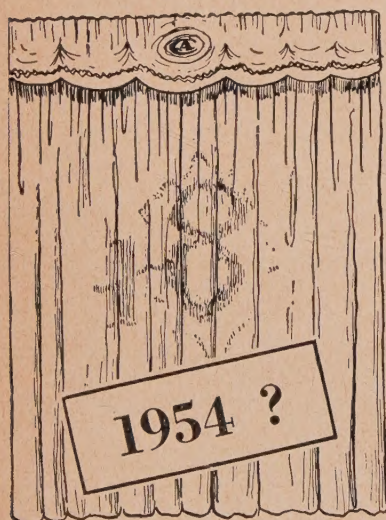
DEFEAT IS IMPOSSIBLE

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13.

These words of Paul inspire confidence. They leave no room for doubt in the heart of a Christian as to the Lord's ability and willingness to stand by and undergird every attempt for His glory on the part of a believer.

Many have declared it was impossible for them to overcome temptation. John wrote, *"To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life . . ."* A great reward is this for those who overcome. Praise God! *"I can do all things through Christ . . ."* Innumerable hosts have identified themselves with Christianity and then have sunk into the abyss of a backslider's shame because they believed it was impossible to live a Christian life. This viewpoint is a lie from the pit. There can be nothing but success in the outcome of a heart full of faith. Defeat is impossible in the great conflict between Christ and Satan, sin and righteousness, life and death. *"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."*

We have a glorious missionary program in the Assemblies of God. The
(Continued on page 11)



We can hardly wait either!

Secrets are hard to keep! You can be sure that as soon as everything is all set, you'll be given a firsthand view of ONE-EIGHT. If your C.A.'s have lost interest, your group bogged down, ONE-EIGHT is the answer. Or if they're active, alive, and "raring to go," ONE-EIGHT will give them "somewhere to go" with a purpose! Watch for more about '54!

1000 MORE IN '54

by Rusty Baker

One thousand is a big number! Think of what 1000 more in '54 will mean to our District C. A. Program. Better still, think what it will mean to you when you stand before your Master and seek your rewards. How precious to share in this work with which the Lord has intrusted us!

Never before has it been so essential that every born again believer be a personal soul winner. With the greatest number of youth delinquents the world has ever seen, we are constrained to, by *all means*, win souls to Him. Many will say, "I am just too timid to talk to the unsaved about their lost condition." God help any Spirit filled believer who hasn't such a love for God that they are not compelled to witness concerning His abounding love!

Jeremiah, a man called to be a prophet at the early age of sixteen years, was thrown into prison for years because he witnessed to the lost. The first time he was ever placed in stocks and beaten he

said, "I will not make mention of Him, nor speak any more in His name." (Jer. 20:9a).

True, we are often ridiculed and persecuted, but so was Christ for our sake. Never fear, Jesus is near. Keep on trusting and serving Him. First Corinthians 4:10 says: "We are fools for Christ's sake." We need more young people such as Daniel, Jeremiah, and others to dare to stand for Christ.

Let us note that Jeremiah didn't stop here, for he goes on to say in the same verse (20:9b): "But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones." He couldn't stay as he was, for he had to go speak for the Lord, as he knew he was called to this office.

The Word says if men do not acknowledge and worship God, the very stones and mountains will cry out. We must not loose our contact with God, nor our zeal and fire as Pentecostal believers.

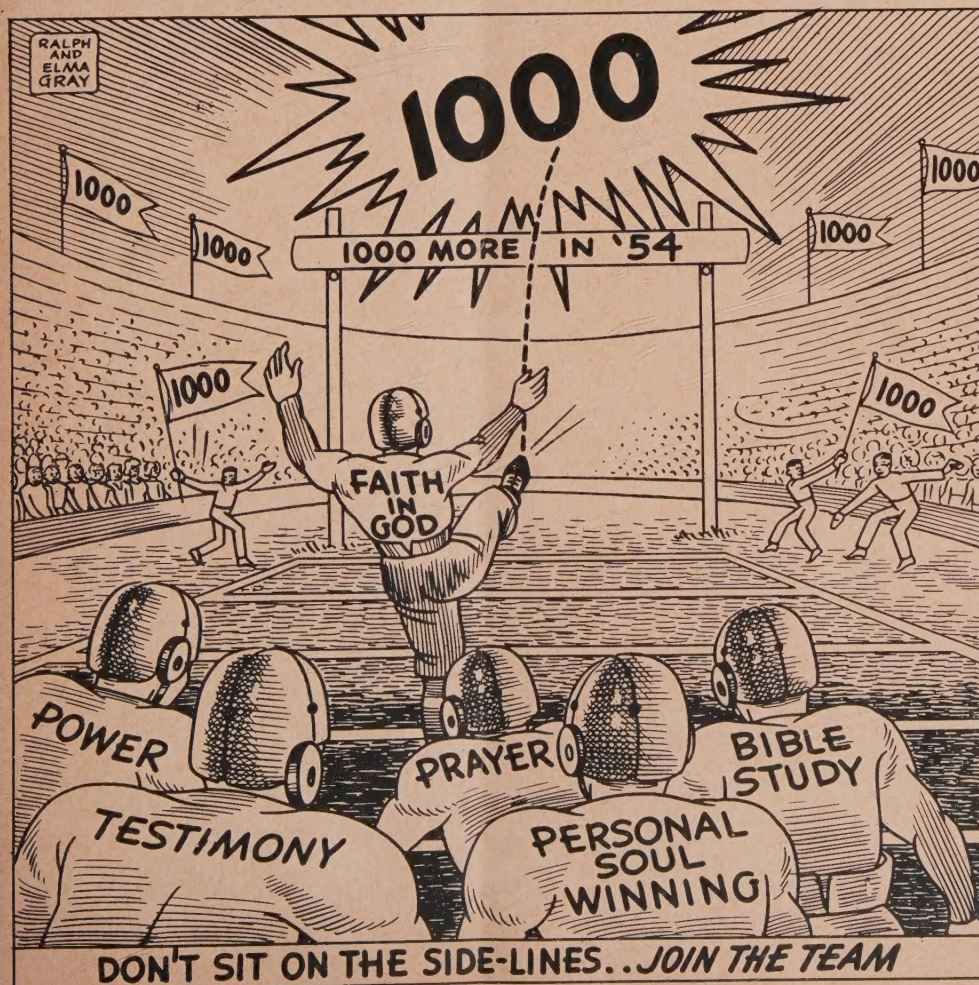
In the field of evangelism, we of the

Pentecostal ranks have a distinct advantage. It has been stated by Roger Babson, a famous statistician, that "the Assemblies of God is the fastest growing church organization in the world today."

Christ gave this commission to His disciples to "Go ye into the world and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15). We are also Christ's disciples, so let us keep up the good work started by those who went before, let us hold the standard high, and let us keep on pregressing for God and His kingdom.

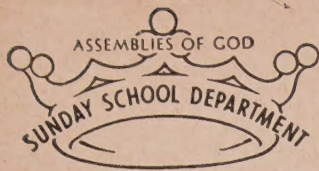
You say, "I can't do it. I just can't witness." My answer must be, "You do your part in offering yourself to Christ and He will do the rest." The Word says that we are laborers together with Him. He promised to give us power. (Acts 1:8). If you haven't got it, do as the Word says in Luke 24:49: "Tarry until ye be endued with power from on high."

We are sounding aloud the appeal, challenging every one of you to help us in this endeavor. We want you to help not only for our District C. A.'s, but for our blessed Lord and Master. Will you help us? What will you do with the tremendous challenge this program presents? Will you, as it were, heed the Macedonian call? Will you serve now that one day you will come before Him rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves?



One of the first groups to be organized under our plan "1000 more in '54" is the Galt Christ's Ambassadors pictured above. This recently formed, but thriving group has already seen many advances in both spiritually and regularity of attendance. The officers are: Freda Frizze, President; David Oaks, Vice President; and Glenna Coker, Treasurer.

The sweaters worn by the group in the picture were purchased through Mrs. Esther Burger, P. O. Box 693, Galt, California. Any other groups interested in purchasing sweaters may contact Mrs. Burger at the above address for further information concerning them.



L. W. SUTER
District Sunday
School Director

BOYS AND GIRLS MISSIONARY CRUSADE

BGMC Day Is February 7, 1954

The Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade, better known as BGMC is a program whereby our Sunday school boys and girls contribute toward the purchase of gospel literature for missionary workers. It is a sort of junior version of our Speed-The-Light program for the C. A.'s. Each year, the first Sunday of February is set apart as BGMC day and a special offering is received for this purpose. BGMC day will be February 7, 1954. In February, 1952, our boys and girls gave nearly \$4,000, last year they gave nearly \$5,200. The goal this year is \$7,000.

The response from missionaries who benefit by this program has been heart-warming indeed. For instance, Ruth E. Johnson, missionary to South Africa tells of leading many student nurses to the Lord and she declares, "I feel sure that the good reading matter in the papers that you sent to me has helped to influence the girls in making their decision for the Lord Jesus." Similarly, Mrs. O. N. Goins of Hawaii writes, "The fine supply of . . . literature that you recently sent to us arrived yesterday and it will be a real blessing to us in the work here. We cannot express what this material means to us."

The total program of BGMC includes sending out back-dated literature, translating portions of Scripture and gospel tracts, shipping newsprint to missionary printing plants, and writing quarterlies, VBS materials, and other literature in some of the major languages of our mission fields. The program has grown so rapidly that now BGMC is aiding in the supply of gospel literature to forty-seven countries.

Not only do Pentecostal Christians in other lands need the benefits of the Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade, but the influence of the Crusade plays an important part in the training of children to give regularly and consistently to missions. Sunday schools which have launched a Crusade in their group have realized an increased interest in missions by the whole church.

In our National Fellowship nearly 2,000 schools have already become members of our BGMC. In this District, at present, some 89 of our Sunday schools are members of the Crusade, but this

represents only 35% of the total number of schools in the District. It is hoped that many more will soon catch the BGMC vision and participate in this fine program. All who wish to join may obtain an application blank from the Sunday School Department, 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield, Missouri. But whether members or not, every school of our District is urged to have a part in BGMC day on February 7.

Plan Now to Attend . . .

AREA WIDE

WORKERS'

TRAINING

COURSES

If you live within driving distance of the following locations you are invited to attend one of these Workers Training Courses. The course of study will be on the departmental level. A general assembly will be held each evening with the District Director serving as instructor, after which the group will attend departmental classes for the various age groups.

Each course begins Monday evening at 7:30 P. M. and closes Friday evening of the same week. You do not have to be a Sunday School worker to attend these courses. Everyone is invited.

Contra Costa Section—Assembly of God, Martinez, California, January 4-8.

Modesto Area—6th and G. Tabernacle, Modesto, California, January 18-22.

Sacramento Area—Bethel Temple, Sacramento, California, February 15-19.

Madera Area—First Assembly of God, Madera, California, March 15-19.

AT THE TENTH National Sunday School Convention, Sacramento's Bethel Assembly won the trophy for the largest group that travelled the greatest distance. Brother Dale Lapp and Pastor Clyde Henson are here pictured with the trophy. It is hoped that once again our District will make records by its splendid representation.

Eleventh National Sunday School Convention

The dates are March 30 - April 2, 1954. The place is Kiel Municipal Auditorium, St. Louis, Missouri. The occasion promises to be the greatest Sunday School convention in the world. You are invited to attend this history making event.

We had approximately 100 people from Northern California and Nevada who attended the 10th National Sunday School Convention in 1952. We would like to have an even larger delegation in 1954. If you are driving your car and want passengers to go with you, or you would like to ride with someone who is driving through, write to your District Sunday School Director, P. O. Box 961, Santa Cruz, California. The office will endeavor to keep a list of those who want passengers and also a list of those who want rides.

If you never participated in a national Sunday School convention, this is your opportunity to experience the enthusiasm and guidance that have inspired thousands of consecrated Sunday School workers in past years. If you have attended previous conventions, you will be sure to appreciate the Eleventh. It will offer all the features you enjoyed in the others plus new conferences, exhibits, panel discussions and numerous practical helps for your Sunday School ministry. Then there will be the unforgettable thrill of fellowship with 11,000 other Sunday School enthusiasts.

The best news about this great gathering is that you will find everything: 33 conferences and workshops, exhibition hall (100,000 feet of exhibit space), auditorium for morning and evening rallies and a cafeteria that can feed 1400 persons an hour—all in one building.

Determine now that you will not miss this important gathering. For information concerning room reservations and registration, write today to L. W. Suter, P. O. Box 961, Santa Cruz, California.



DEFEAT IS IMPOSSIBLE

(Continued from page 8)

Speed-The-Light program of the Christ's Ambassadors is incomparable as it aids and quickens the efforts of missionaries to win souls for the Master. We can name people and tell of villages that have been won to Christ, because of a jeep or a bike. Any missionary could fill a book with true stories of miracles of grace because of Speed-The-Light. After the war, the Communists had a speed the light vision and they too freely purchased jeeps wherever they could be obtained as war surplus. They equipped these vehicles with public address systems, and sent them forth to otherwise unreached and unevangelized tribes who actually were a part of the fields that ought to have been "white" unto a Christian harvest. There they preached anti-white, anti-democratic, anti-God doctrines to pagans who might have been stars in some Christian's crown. These, who might have been blood-washed saints, are Mau-Maus, shedding the blood of all who resist them. These communistic, Christ rejecting hordes may now never be won to the Lord. Parts of the Orient will never be reached in this decade, regardless of the equipment we may purchase for Speed-The-Light. The enemy has beaten us to parts of the Dark Continent. But this is only a temporary set back because "Defeat Is Impossible." We "*can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth*" us. We can, as a movement of Spirit filled young people, stir ourselves to do more sacrificing of material things.

Our program may be compared to a war, but our war is not a war of mere earth men. We are members of a super race; members of a heavenly kingdom. We are not fighting flesh and blood, but demons and wicked powers of spiritual darkness. However, we do not fight in our own human strength, for Christ strengthened us. "Defeat Is Impossible."

And on the other hand, apart from the supernatural element, let us also re-

MEET OUR PRESBYTERS

This Month We Present



REV. L. R. ANDERSON

Brother L. R. Anderson is one of our newer and younger Presbyters, for he was elected to this office in March of 1953. However, he is no novice to the gospel ministry, for he has been in the

When we are flat on our backs, there is no way to look but up. —*Babson.*

† † †

The irony of life is that others forget the things about us we want them to remember, and remember the things about us we want them to forget.—*G. Lemmon.*

member that it has been ordained that we utilize earthly resoures and physical means. We too must purchase jeeps and bikes and public address systems. The magnitude of the task overwhelms us when we know half the world must yet be reached, but we may hold on to this text for our Speed-The-Light program and we shall yet equip our front line soldiers with all they need. "*If God be for us, who can be against us?*"

work in some capacity for at least a decade.

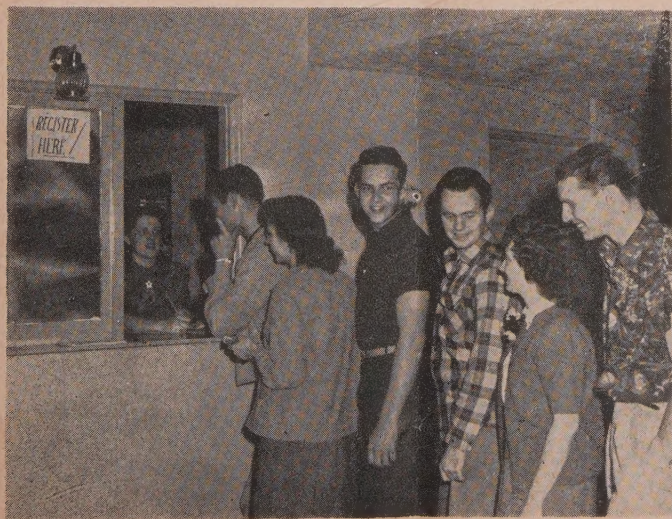
Brother Anderson graduated from North Central Bible Institute at Minneapolis in 1934, and for a time he ministered in North Dakota and Minnesota. Later he came to this District and took up his residence in Santa Rosa. Some five years ago the Assembly called him as their pastor, and from then until now he has exercised a faithful ministry there. In addition to his pastorate and his work as a presbyter, Brother Anderson is also a member of the District Sunday School Advisory Committee and he has proved a blessing in that capacity.

Brother Anderson has a reputation for manifesting a quiet, calm, thoughtful character, and for being a faithful and devoted Pastor. He is spoken of as a forth-right preacher whose messages have value and application for the every day Christian walk. As one of our younger pastors and District leaders, he bids fair to be of increasing blessing and worth to our District and to the Kingdom in days ahead, should our Lord tarry.

—L. T. H.



FLOYD W. THOMAS, missionary to British West Africa.



It's Registration Time Again!

THE SPRING SEMESTER AT GLAD TIDINGS BIBLE INSTITUTE BEGINS:

JANUARY 25, 1954

New students accepted. A full program of course offerings in: BIBLE, THEOLOGY, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, SACRED MUSIC, and MISSIONS.

Write immediately for complete information.

REGISTRAR

Glad Tidings Bible Institute
P. O. Box 961
Santa Cruz, California

Here and There



MORTGAGE BURNING at Oakland's Calvary Temple on Thanksgiving Sunday. All District officials participated, and Brother Gaston brought the message. Music was by the choir of Glad Tidings Bible Institute. The pastor of the assembly is Brother Oliver L. Foth.

AUBURN—The people of the Capital section are praising the Lord for the good Home Missions Offering received at their November fellowship meeting. The offering totaled \$164.20. The afternoon speaker was Pastor Snyder of the Church of The Redeemed in North Sacramento, while in the evening the speaker was Sister Sturgeon of Oakland's First Church.

COLUSA—Pastor R. A. Wilson, Jr. reports a very profitable revival meeting with Evangelist and Mrs. P. C. Walcher. Several persons were refilled and one teen-ager was brought to the Lord. Also at Colusa, following the Walcher revival meetings, Evangelist Harry Leacock, the "Storyteller," conducted a children's re-

vival. Fully 165 children were enrolled in these meetings and, in addition to the benefit to the boys and girls, many parents and adults were reached and blessed.

ESCALON—The assembly has recently concluded a very successful revival meeting with Evangelist and Mrs. Homer Doyle. On November 29, Pastor Reeves submitted to the congregation his resignation, however, he plans to remain in the assembly until sometime in the new year.

FERNDALE—Pastor and Mrs. Wilford Frazier have resigned after completing a successful two year ministry in Ferndale.

JACKSON — The assemblies at Sutter Creek and Plymouth recently united with Jackson for a union revival meeting. The

evangelist was Doyle McKay who is the new pastor at Jackson. The results of the meeting were most favorable. The pastor at Sutter Creek is Chester Savage; while at Plymouth, Jack Colas is the pastor.

KLAMATH—Pastor N. R. Ingram reports a good two-week revival meeting with evangelist Z. P. Miller. Writes Brother Ingram, "The Lord blessed in the services and the church was refreshed in the Lord."

LOYALTON—A cheerful letter from Pastor Bradford Wilmoth of this assembly, brings encouraging news of God's blessing there. A recent revival with Evangelist and Mrs. Ben Givens resulted in several conversions and infillings with the Holy Spirit. The building program is progressing nicely and the church is now nearly finished on the inside. The November C. A. Rally in the assembly proved to be an outstanding blessing with the ministry of Brother Ray Lockwood and Brother Walt Boring. Not least of Brother Wilmoth's gratitude for his assembly, is his appreciation for his people's generosity in the recent gift to him of a 1953 automobile.

MODESTO (BETHEL)—A report from this assembly has described a very fine revival meeting under the ministry of Evangelist Emmett McNabb. The meetings were well attended both by strangers and visitors, and by the members of the church. The pastor of this assembly is Donald G. Weston.

PITTS—Brother J. L. Jeffrey has announced his resignation as pastor of this assembly. During the 18 months of our brother's ministry the assembly has gone forward and, among other things, has added 10 new Sunday school rooms. Brother Jeffrey will be in evangelistic work and may be contacted for revivals at General Delivery, Concord, California.

ST. HELENA—Brother and Sister Wilford Frazier have accepted the pastorate of this congregation. They began their ministry at the beginning of December.

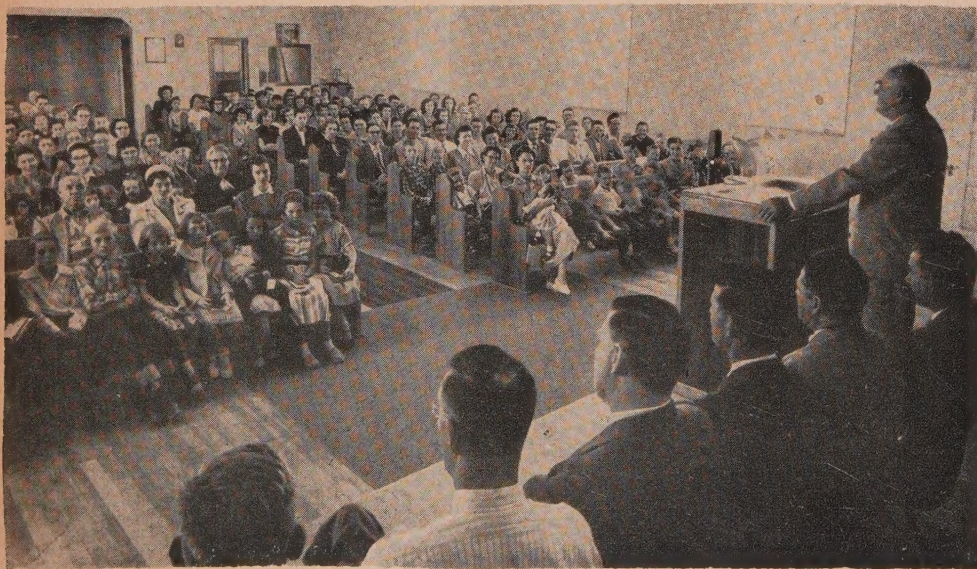
SALIDA—We have received reports of a very profitable four week revival in this assembly under the ministry of Evangelist and Mrs. Ed. Byrum. (For further news of this assembly see the accompanying picture.)

SAN FRANCISCO (GLAD TIDINGS)—During the interim between pastors, this assembly has been enjoying splendid meetings under the ministry of Evangelist Lorne Case and Evangelist Arne Vick.

SANTA CRUZ (Bethany Park) — Recent speakers at this assembly included Evangelist Andrew Rahner and Evangelist Bob Scott.

SOQUEL—Recent revival meetings under the ministry of Evangelist Ben Givens proved a blessing to this assembly. The pastor is Elizabeth Mehringer Richardson.

SUTTER—A letter from Pastor Stella Myers reports, "We have just concluded a three week revival with Evangelist and



THE INTERIOR OF THE ASSEMBLY AT SALIDA with Pastor Dan Robinson in the pulpit. This photo was taken at the time when Brother Robinson was commemorating his eighth anniversary as pastor. The men on the platform are the assembly's deacons and trustees. Salida is to be congratulated for an attractive church building with an inviting interior and its record of a Gold Crown Sunday school for the past five years.

Mrs. P. C. Walcher from Oregon. From the first night and all through the three weeks, the Holy Spirit was in evidence in a precious way. Seven were saved, seven reclaimed, three baptised in the Holy Spirit, several were refilled, and some were healed. One man was healed of a severe case of sinus trouble."

TULELAKE—This assembly, with Pastor Glen Ayers, was host to the November fellowship meeting of the Shasta section. The afternoon speaker was Brother Walt Boring, while in the evening Brother Ray Lockwood brought the message. Brother Rowley, the Presbyter, reports that at least one received the baptism of the Holy Spirit in these meetings.

UKIAH—Pastor J. R. Edgar writes of a recent splendid revival meeting with Evangelist Maurice McGinnis. The pastor is especially pleased with the continued revival spirit in the church following the departure of the evangelist. Several families are now attending church because of these meetings. Brother Edgar also mentions that his Sunday School has grown so markedly that it is now necessary to proceed with the building of a Sunday School annex.

Personal Mention

Chaplain FRANK W. SMITH is now stationed at Parks Air Force Base. He writes: "This assignment is the most fruitful of any that I have had since coming home from Europe. Have had several conversions and from letters that I have received from patients and relatives of patients have managed to be of comfort and help to many, for all of which may the Lord be praised."

Evangelist WM. F. KIRKPATRICK has written a cheery letter reporting God's protecting and healing hand upon him. He reports that this past summer at camp meeting he was healed of sugar diabetes of over five years' standing. He declares that he has retired from secular work and is once more ready for an active full time ministry. He may be contacted at P. O. Box 621, Modesto, California.

On November 21, our District united hearts and prayers in biding farewell to CALVIN AND OLIVE ZEISSLER. This fine young couple has gone forth to the Philippine Islands to be missionary workers. They sailed from pier 28 in San Francisco, and as Glad Tidings goes to press they should have arrived at their destination and be adjusting to their new life. In their farewell message they particularly asked that thanks be expressed to everyone in the District who had a part in providing for their fares and equipment.

The former Dean of Women of Glad Tidings, DR. LUCENA E. TURNER, has left Oakland and is now residing in Fresno.

JOSEPH WILDERMAN, another former faculty member of Glad Tidings, recently returned to the District on a brief leave of absence from his pastorate at Coulee City, Washington. He conducted a very worth-while revival meeting in Stockton, and also ministered at Glad Tidings Bible Institute during special days of prayer.

Glad Tidings magazine joins scores of friends and well-wishers in expressing sincere good wishes and a prayer for divine blessing upon newly-weds DOUG and MARY FAIRINGTON, BEN and EVELYN KELTERBORN, and LEWIS and LENORE WILSON. All of these folks are known and appreciated either as Glad Tidings alumni or District workers.

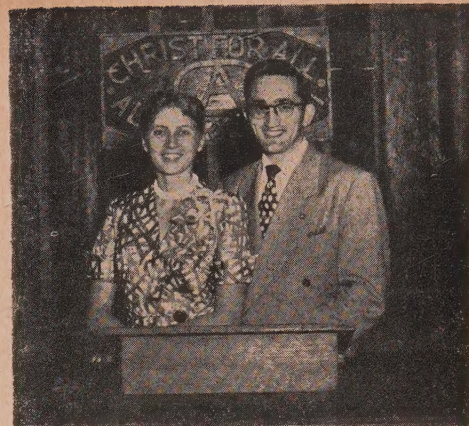
Aircraft Carrier Group at Golden Gate Center

Victor and Lottie Sanderson of the Golden Gate Center for service personnel enthusiastically report the activity and ministry of a group of Pentecostal servicemen who recently arrived in San Francisco. The group is from an aircraft carrier named *USS Philippine Sea*.

These young men have been formed into a Gospel team, inviting their buddies to meetings, conducting services, praying, and leading their fellows to Christ. The team has been able to visit some of the District churches, and in a service at Alameda, one received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

The Center also reports the conversion of a serviceman's wife and she and her husband being baptized in water.

Comment the Sandersons, "This we could not do alone without the help of all our friends. We are especially grateful to the WMC group that has contributed coffee, sugar, and cream and to the churches that send in offerings



THE CALVIN ZEISSLERS who sailed November 21 for missionary service in the Philippines.



PASTOR BRADFORD WILMOTH with deacons and visitors of the Loyalton Assembly. Pictured are (left to right) Leo Dikes, Bert Graves, Pastor Wilmoth, Evangelist Ben Givens, Pastor Hazen Chester of Greenville, and Albert Driggers Jr. In the background is the car that the assembly recently gave its pastor.

FOR SALE

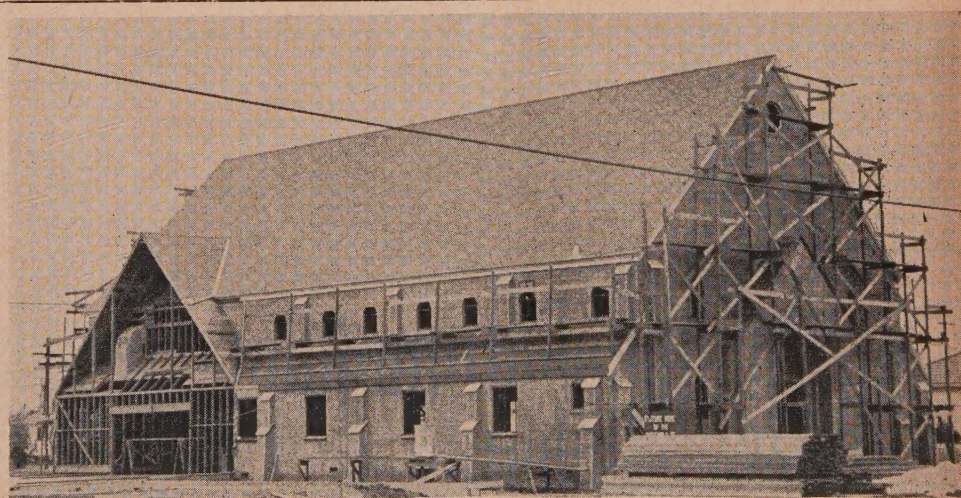
The following musical instruments are offered:

Bass Viol: (good condition) \$95.00.

Accordion 1953 Crucianelli ladies size, 120 bass, practically new. Priced to sell.

Contact Reverend Jimmy Winkle, 200 Emerson Ave., Modesto, Phone 3-3932.

for rent. God bless everyone, and all the dear Christians who pray for us."



THE NEW ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH under construction at Merced. The main building is 50 feet by 90 feet, with a seating capacity of 420. It has a nursery, a pastor's study, two prayer rooms, rest rooms, church office, baptistry, and a large balcony. Also under construction is a Sunday School annex with 13 class rooms, a large C. A. chapel, and a lovely kitchen. It is expected that the building will be completed by April.

THE GRIEF OF A CRITICAL SPIRIT

by

Helen Byram Jarvis

The family had come home from church, and as they ate their Sunday dinner, the conversation turned toward the events of the morning. One said, "I don't think Bro. M— had much of anointing when he was preaching."

Another, "I agree with you, but M. J.'s singing was worse."

"Pretty dry service," volunteered a third.

And so it went, picking a flaw here, and making a criticism there until back-slidden uncle T, who was about in the notion of going next Sunday, decided that it would not be worth while, and unsaved L—, who had thought of attending the evening service, chose a movie instead.

Criticism is a peculiar thing. There is a constructive variety, a helpful kind that operates only for the sake of improvement. Any sensible, thinking mind likes to evaluate people and their efforts, and it is necessary to discern between the good and the evil. However, there is a lot that is vain empty chatter filled with a superficial faultfinding. Often it is just a thoughtless habit. Nevertheless, this pointless criticizing of others can become more vicious and open up the way for a critical spirit to assume control. It becomes a spiritual affliction of the worst sort, displeasing to God, and opening a gateway for the operations of Satan with all his evil suggestions.

Let us consider Scriptural accounts of criticism. Only a few examples will show how unwholesome it is. For instance, right in the beginning, there is Satan in the Garden of Eden. Seeking to create doubt in the Word of God, he criticizes God's way of doing things. Miriam and Aaron found fault with Moses, and what sad consequences! Korah, Dathan, and Abiram judged their leaders, and found the earth opening to receive them. By subtle words of criticism, Absalom stole the hearts of his father's subjects. Incessantly, the Pharisees and others opposed Jesus by their stiff-necked hypocritical faultfinding. Just these few references suggest that there is deadly evil in improper criticism.

Sister Jarvis is a Glad Tidings Bible Institute alumnus of the class of 1925. She has served in various capacities in the ministry, including four years as a teacher at Glad Tidings, and several years in the Mountain States as a pioneer pastor and evangelist. At present she resides at Woodland and shares her time between a lay ministry and caring for her family.



HELEN BYRAM JARVIS

Often root causes are not praiseworthy. Jealousy, envy, hatred, and malice give evil suggestions. Conceit and pride inspire many an ugly word of fault-finding. Selfish ambition and self-will, despising leadership (2 Pet. 2:10; Jude 8), are fertile soils for a critical spirit. A root of bitterness, allowed to eat as a canker, may find expression in bitter judgment, for although bitter things of life are intended to sweeten the spirit, the reverse is often true when a critical spirit reigns uncurbed.

What sorrow such a spirit brings! Strife and bondage thrive in its presence. Many have been driven to suicide by its brutal whip. Both children and adults are known to have developed weird fears, strange complexes, and baffling frustrations because of the fear of criticism. According to Christ, the faultfinding folks of his day had a destiny in the fires of hell. A critical spirit is all Satan needs with which to wreck a church, destroy a work for God, and irreparably grieve the Holy Spirit. (Eph. 4:30, 31.) If nothing more, the glow is lost from Christian experience, and the influence of Christian life and character is dimmed. Above all, we can rest assured that Christ is never glorified by faultfinding.

What is the remedy? True heart searching and honest self inventory is a good way to begin. Ask the question, "Am I so busy holding up the imperfections of my fellow men that Jesus is obscured?" Sincere confession and prayer to God, with earnest watchfulness of the tongue, are necessary to victory. If the Holy Spirit directs, confession to man also helps. True humility and honest appreciation of others exercise charity in estimating the worth of others. Keep busy for God, for although a busybody is always criticizing, a *busy person* is much too occupied to find time to hunt faults. Best of all, a fresh vision of Jesus and His Cross, viewing His great perfections, make petty human imperfections seem so unimportant. And a new consecration causes the mind to be renewed by the Holy Spirit, and opens up the springs of His divine mercy to the life and heart

YESTERDAY AND TODAY

A New Year's Message by

Erma Miller

As we pause at the brink of a new year, we are concerned with two thoughts—the past and the future. We remember the joys and sorrow, cares and pleasures of the year that is past, and we anticipate with eagerness or apprehension the year ahead.

Thinking of the year that has now completed its course, we remember with mixed emotions the many events of that year. Has it been a successful year, one well-used in accomplishing our purpose in life? Or did we allow precious hours to slip through our fingers unheeded? Have we lived as God would have us, manifesting the fruits of the Spirit-filled life? Has every thought, word, and deed been permeated with these fruits: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance? Perhaps we wish we could relive those wasted hours, undo those unkind deeds, unsay those thoughtless words. But forcefully we realize that yesterday is gone, never to be relived. What we have done remains forever; what we have said can never be unspoken. The time that seemed so lasting was actually but a fleeting moment. Here, then gone forever!

In contrast with these recollections there are many that we recall with pleasure and satisfaction. Perhaps it was but a smile, but that smile encouraged us on our way. A kind word spoken in season put new spirit within us. The laugh of a happy child, the warmth and strength of a helping hand, the song of a bird, or the fragrance and beauty of a newly opened blossom—all these, though seemingly insignificant, are things we remember gratefully. But more wonderful than these in eternity's light, we joyfully think of the souls that have been saved, the lives transformed, the Christian's strengthened. Our hearts respond with thankfulness and praise and adoration to Him who "liveth forever and ever" for His many blessings bestowed upon us. As we recall these things of yesterday while pausing between 1953 and 1954 we realize that every event, every occasion of the last year has had its fruit in our lives, preparing us for presentation to the King of kings.

Now let us press forward. Yesterday is
(Continued on back cover)

until the whole being is filled with that love that "believeth all things, hopeth all things."

Goldia Anderson, Pres.

P. O. Box 574

El Cerrito, Calif.

"We Minister



As Unto Christ"

Rally News

EAST BAY—A recent rally of this section was held in Revival Tabernacle in Oakland. A large crowd enjoyed messages from missionaries to several countries, and there was a farewell message from Brother and Sister Riley Kaufman who will be leaving soon for the Philippines. A Sunbeam Coffee Maker was presented to Sister Kaufman, and there was a shower of coffee, sugar, and cream for the Serviceman's Center.

CARSON CITY, NEVADA—A rally in this assembly provided a most worthwhile time of fellowship and encouragement. The afternoon session included a presentation of the complete program and ministry of the WMC work. Sister Elmes from Reno is the newly elected sectional director.

WESTWOOD — The three services were greatly blessed in spite of unfavorable weather. The agenda was: morning—reports, afternoon—questions and answers, evening—an evangelistic message. Sister Maude Coulter is the sectional director of this area.

CERES — Sister Cook, sectional director, had a rally in which the Riley Kaufmans were the speakers. The ladies gave the Kaufmans a nice shower of things to take to the mission field.

RODEO — Your director recently had the privilege of helping the ladies of this assembly to organize and become another group added to our District WMC family. May God bless them in their faithfulness to Him.

—Goldia Anderson

PROJECT CORNER

Brother and Sister Riley Kaufman and daughters will be sailing soon for the Philippines. Since they will not be available for any of our Rallies, shall we bring our gifts for them to the District Convention in Sacramento, February 23, 24, 25, 26. All household articles including dime store items and personal things according to these sizes.

Mrs. Flossie Kaufman 14-36.

Mr. Riley Kaufman 15½-4, 38.

Kay Kaufman 14-34.

Rilene age 2½, size 4-6x.

A NEW VISION FOR A NEW YEAR

by Goldia Anderson

Have the days, weeks, years, gone by too fast?

"My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle." Job 7:6

Have you seen a loom or weaver's shuttle? Hundreds of strands of thread are carefully prepared and set into the loom. This is called the warp. Then other thread is wound upon spools or bobbins and inserted on each side in such a manner that when the machine is operated these bobbins fly back and forth between the threads of the warp and the cloth is woven, a thread at a time. This is the picture that the writer of the book of Job had in mind when he exclaimed, *"My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle."*

Let us see what the figure suggests to us as we take a backward look over the year that is past and a forward look into the year that is coming. How many threads there are in a bolt of cloth on the loom! As the cloth consists of almost countless, tiny threads, so life is made up mostly of little things. And here is the point: Just as you cannot say that a single thread is unimportant, so the seemingly most trivial thought or word or deed done in Jesus' Precious Name may be of great consequences.

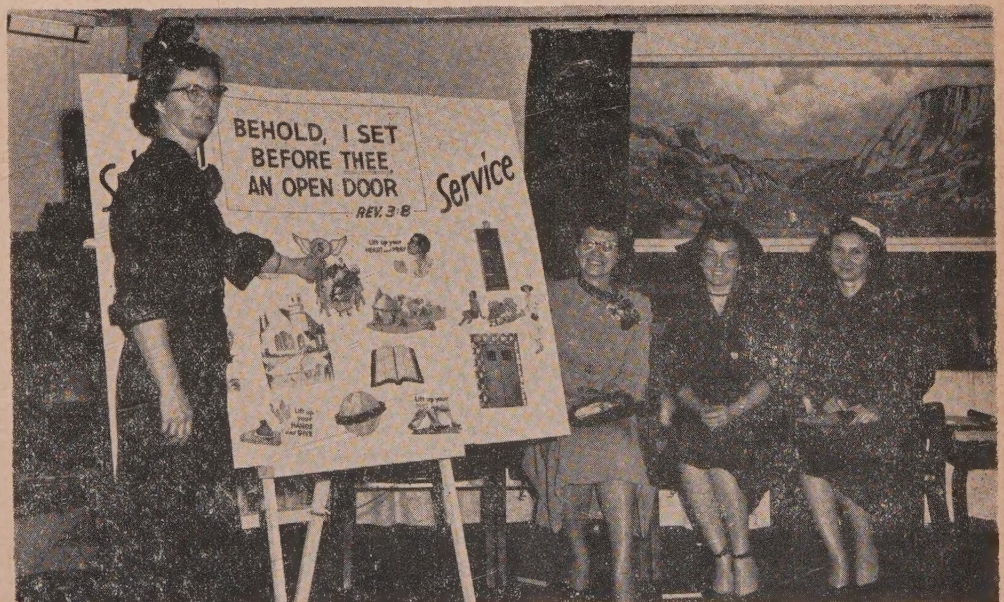
Reports have been pouring into my office — great reports — small reports — large churches — small churches — all working toward one GOAL, that is, to see foreign missionaries outfitted; home missionaries with the necessities and comforts of life; local activities that will be helpful to our churches and pastors. As each little thread is important in weaving so every WMC group in our district, no matter how small, is important in carrying out and completing the projects that God has laid upon our hearts to do for Him. *May our vision increase for the year 1954!*

PENNIES!

PENNIES!

PENNIES!

Remember that our WMC groups are collecting pennies to help in buying furniture for our District church extension program. Bring your pennies to your sectional WMC rally or fellowship meeting before the Sacramento Convention. The sectional directors will take the pennies to the Convention. There is a special gift to the section which brings the most.



A SCENE AT THE EAST BAY RALLY held at Revival Tabernacle in Oakland. Sister Ferne Murray is illustrating her message. Seated (left to right) are: Goldia Anderson, Earlene Steelberg, and Flossie Kaufman.

Current Signs

ITEMS OF INTEREST BY ALBERT J. LEBECK

Evangelizing the World

A speaker at a Presbyterian conference on evangelism recently pointed out the striking fact that if there were only 12 believing Christians in the world and each won at least one other per year, it would take less than the lifetime of Jesus, 33 years, to win the two billion or more souls in the world.

Gospel Ministers in the U. S.

The United States has some 250,000 ministers of the Gospel, while only 18,000 Protestant missionaries are serving the rest of the world.

Prevailing Militarism

At this time, throughout the world, there are 19,000,000 men under arms. This number is greater than the totals of 1938. In 1954 the nations of the world will spend \$27 billions on their armies, navies, and air forces. Militarism and wars are ruining the world. There is no prospect of permanent peace until the Lord Jesus, the Prince of Peace, returns to establish His kingdom on earth.

Russia's Ten Commandments

The new manual for godless youth, re-edited from the 1947 original, is now being distributed in the Soviet Union. Here are the new commandments:

1. Remember that the clergy, regardless of faith, is the foremost enemy of our Communist state.

2. Thou shalt labor diligently to draw thy friends and acquaintances toward communism, never forgetting that the Communist party is the supreme authority of the atheists of the whole world.

3. Teach thy friends to shun all priests.

4. Guard thyself against spies, condemn saboteurs.

5. Busy thyself in the propagation of anti-religious magazines and newspapers.

6. Let every faithful Communist be also a militant and forthright atheist.

7. Thou shalt resist religious ideas, always and everywhere, protecting thy friends from them.

8. The faithful atheist is likewise a goodly policeman, ever watchful of the security of the Communist state.

9. Give generously of what thou hast to carry on a missionary work among the unenlightened, especially outside the Soviet Union where atheism suffers underground.

10. Remember that if thou be not a devoted atheist, thou canst not be a faithful Communist nor even a firm Soviet citizen on whom our state can rely. Atheism and communism are of one bond, and these ideals are the foundations of Soviet power.

Moslems in America

In July of the past year, a big Moslem convention at Toledo, Ohio, boasted representatives from 45 states and five Canadian provinces. It is claimed that there are 32,600 Moslems in North America. People of this faith read from the Koran and prostrate themselves toward Mecca. Yes, in this United States!

Executions in China

The American Federation of Labor recently made a compilation of the number of lives destroyed in China by Mao Tse-Tung's Communistic regime since it came into power. According to reports of agents within the country and by a day-by-day analysis of Red newspapers and documents, the total number of killings amounts to more than 14 million dead.

YESTERDAY AND TODAY

(Continued from page 14)

in the past; before we have today and tomorrow. As we face the present and the future may we learn from yesterday's experiences how better to conduct ourselves today. May we not linger over yesterday, but may we be the wiser and stronger because of yesterday.

As a new year begins often our first thought is: "This year things are going to be different. I'm going to change my ways. I resolve to do this or that." Without doubt our resolution is sincere. We really do mean business. But we find that within a few weeks we have begun to forget that resolution. The novelty of a new year has worn off in the rut of everyday routine and we find ourselves slipping. Was there a fault in our good intentions? Why is it so difficult to be different—to keep resolution?

We find the answer to our problem in the words of Jesus: "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." On January first we see the whole year ahead of us and plan what we will or will not do. Is our vision still as clear on February first? If not, why? In our long range vision have we forgotten to live each day with that purpose in mind? To have a clear vision for the year is good, to have a purpose for the week is better, but to live today, today is best. In anticipating tomorrow, we borrow from its cares. Today's burdens are all we can bear today. So let us live one moment at a time, making that moment count, "draining the sweetness from the cup" that moment. Remember, we are not expected to live tomorrow now, but we are responsible for today.

How much happier our lives will be.

The Cost of Alcohol

An insurance expert associated with a mid-west casualty insurance company recently announced that he estimated that 30 per cent of all losses paid by casualty insurance companies are the result of alcohol. In dollars this loss amounts to \$555,000,000.

Spiritual Famine in America

In the United States there are 10,000 villages that have no religious services of any kind, and 30,000 villages that have no resident pastor. According to *Evangelism*, there are 60,000 closed rural churches in America. Two out of every three children in this nation do not attend Sunday school.

Children's "Comic" Books

One authority has recently declared that only about 30 per cent of so-called comic books for children make any attempt at being funny. The great majority of these publications base their appeal upon "crime, sex, terror, adventure, etc., . . . that appeal to those looking for the shock treatment."

Perhaps you have seen those around you who seemed continually overflowing. They seemed undaunted by anything. Your thought was, "If only I could be like that!" The truth is, you can be. Notice those individuals. They have a purpose in life and they stick to it—living one moment at a time, doing duty when it is due, enjoying pleasure to its full. Whatever they do they do it wholeheartedly. They have no time to worry over tomorrow or yesterday, they are too busy living today and enjoying it. For them it is, "sufficient unto the day."



ERMA MILLER. Erma is a Junior student at Glad Tidings Bible Institute.

May we, as we face 1954, determine to live better lives, and to make our lives better by living today, today. The time is precious, too precious to waste in purposeless living. Whatever our purpose in life may we cling to it, work toward it, be glad of it, that we might fulfill it and "in that day" be able to face our Maker and hear His, "Child, well done."